**Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.**—We are not responsible for such bad customs.

*The motion was hence withdrawn with leave of the House.*

## 17. State—aid to Colleges affiliated to Madras University.

**Mr. George Chakyamuri.**—I do not press it, Sir.

*Hence the following resolution was considered withdrawn.*

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—*This Council recommends to the Government that hereafter no aid of any kind should be extended to any College in the State that owes allegiance to the Madras University and that instructions be immediately issued to them to seek affiliation to any other University than the Madras University.*"

## 18. Exemption from Standing Order No. (1).

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.**—This resolution reads as follows:—

"This Council recommends to the Government that all unpassed English knowing hands now in service be exempted from the operation of Standing Order No. 1 with a view to give them the benefit of the recent re-organisation of pay and enable them to draw Rs. 25—40 per mensem."

This is a proposition which in the shape of a cut motion I had once placed before this House.

For want of statistics, I can make only one general observation. To the best of my information, the number of such hands cannot be a big one. The rule was in force that for posts carrying more than Rs. 20 only passed hands should be appointed. That is Standing Order No 1. And subsequent to the passing of that, I don't think appointments of unpassed hands had been made. Therefore this resolution will affect such of the low-paid Government servants as chanced to enter the Government service about 10 or 15 years ago and who are now rotting on Rs. 20 per mensem. Again I understand that in various departments of service on the recommendations of the Departmental Heads concerned, exemptions have been granted. I understand that exemptions have been granted even in the case of persons whose present pay is only Rs. 18, not even Rs. 20. They have been enabled to draw this scale of Rs. 25 to 40. I refer to certain exemptions to certain clerks in the Forest Department. I also know that such men in the Civil Judicial Department are also exempted. On the Criminal side, I believe, that is in the Magistrate's Court, a few hands are labouring under this difficulty. Even after strong recommendations by the District Magistrate, the Government did not find its way to grant exemption to some of those hands. I believe, that the ac-

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ceptance of this Resolution by the Government will not land them in any large extra expenditure. On the other hand, if the same is accepted, a very few deserving hands, who are now rotting on a small pittance will be benefitted and the Government will be able to get the gratitude of those few individuals. The Government has no right, I may say, to withhold this exemption in the case of a few, especially when they have given exemption in the case of a good many of the same type. Therefore, with these remarks, I place this resolution for the acceptance of the House.

**Dr. A. R. Menon.**—For information, Sir. Does the Government generally give exemption in the case of unpassed hands who have been in the service for 10 or 12 years? Were they exempted from the operation of this rule?

**Mr. T. S. Sesha Ayyar.**—Not as a general rule.

**Dr. A. R. Menon.**—Have you given exemption?

**Mr. T. S. Sesha Ayyar.**—In the revision of 1105 all unpassed hands who held posts the pay of which were revised to Rs. 25—40 or who had an immediate chance of getting Rs. 25—40 were exempted, and exemption was given to some for the grade Rs. 40—60 also.

**Dr. A. R. Menon.**—May I know the number in all of this category who have not been exempted?

**Mr. T. S. Sesha Ayyar.**—We have got a question.. We are gathering that information.

**Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.**—I can say in the Revenue Department there is none.

**Mr. I. N. Menon.**—Is it only in the clerical establishment?

**Dr. A. R. Menon.**—What about schools?

**Mr. I. N. Menon.**—There are a large number of unpassed hands in schools, and they have not yet been given exemption.

**Dr. A. R. Menon.**—I want to say a few words on this resolution. I may say for the information of this House that the majority of clerks in my office—Municipal Office, Trichur—are unpassed hands. But there is no single office in the whole State of Cochin including the Huzur with whom they could not be compared favourably in the matter of ability and despatch of work. If you are making a man do the same work which a qualified man who gets Rs. 25—40 does, I fail to see the justification of depriving that man of that scale of pay. I can quite understand Government refusing to appoint a man on that scale. But this is taking advantage of the man without paying him properly for his labours. You may say, certainly that you want minimum qualification to be such and such. But if that man is doing the work properly and to the entire satisfaction of the Government and his supe-

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riors then I submit it is but proper that Government should give him the same pay. After all, as is pointed out by the mover, it will not be an enormous burden upon the Government. Even if it is, I submit that the Government should consider their case more favourably and they should be given these grades. I may also say for the information of this House that though we have been talking for 4 days about the education of the present-day graduates some of them do not compare favourably with the old Matrics either in ability or in drafting communications. And it so happens that many of the best communications received by the Huzur from the outlying offices, are drafted by unpassed hands. So the Government should consider their case in a most favourable manner and, as far as possible, their grievances should be redressed.

**Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.**—I would also support this motion.

**Mr. M. A. Chakko.**—I rise to oppose this motion. It is on a principle. The resolution says "This Council recommends to the Government that all unpassed English knowing hands now in service are to be exempted from the rule. So the rule has to be modified or improved in favour of the present existing hands. Individual instances of ability or efficiency have been brought forward as the reason to make the Government willing to make this exemption to a large body of people. I think Standing Order No. 1 remained there for a long time. And these unpassed hands were entertained into the service with the knowledge that they have to limit their promotions to a certain grade and not beyond. It is not in the clerical department, it is not in the Educational Department, it is not in the administrative side of the Judicial Department alone that these restrictions operate. In wider fields also examination qualification stand as a barrier to a person's progress in the scale of public service. I may say many a Munsiff's Court Vakil would like to enroll as the Chief Court Vakil. Some of them may be more efficient than the new comers who are enrolled in the Chief Court Bar. If such a proposition were brought into this House I should think there would be a wild hue and cry. In the same way, there are many sub-assistant surgeons who are much more able in the matter of curing diseases to the satisfaction of their patients than persons who have academic qualification of a University of a higher degree. So efficiency or ability to carry out duties in particular individuals cannot be made the reason for granting general exemption. I think that point will be clear to any person if he bestows thought for a moment. The Government is already granting exemption in individual cases where merit has to be

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recognised. Where merit has to be recognised and rewarded the Government is not lax. When a certain person's merit is taken as the reason, for giving exemptions to certain other persons the rule cannot hold. Therefore on these grounds, I think that the rule cannot be relaxed, and that exemptions should not be given wholesale.

**Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.**—I rise to support this motion. I think it would be a benevolent act on the part of the Government to extend this privilege to the already existing officers in the State. Now, granting this exemption, does not necessarily mean legitimate promotion in due time. There is the effiency bar. Simply because a man is eligible he is not invariably promoted. He will be promoted only if he proves himself to be efficient. Therefore there cannot be any injustice in making this rule of general application so far as the officers already in service are concerned. Inasmuch as these people have not any opportunities of getting themselves qualified at Government expense I think that is an additional reason to support these people. Of course these officers take study leave and qualify themselves. That would be out of the question in regard to officers drawing only petty salaries. So that the removal of the bar would be a boon. It would not involve the State in very big commitments, because the principle is, so far as I know, that only deserving persons among them would be promoted so that upon these considerations, in fairness to those people who are already in service, in view of their efficient service in the past, I think they deserve encouragement. I support this motion.

**Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.**—It is not quite clear as to what the Hon'ble Member wants the Government to do. The resolution reads "This Council recommends to the Government that all unpassed English knowing hands now in service (that is to say, now can apply only to the present time, the Hon'ble Member may correct), be exempted from the operation of Standing Order No. 1, with a view to give them the benefit of the recent re-organisation of pay and enable them to draw Rs.25—40 per mensem. To those unpassed hands now in service, the re-organisation was given effect to from 1st Chingam 1105, that is very nearly 2 years ago and I find from the records, the Hon'ble Member's laudable recommendation on behalf of efficient unpassed hands, had practically been given effect to by Government. Unpassed hands who knew English well and who were exempted for posts over Rs. 20 and Rs. 25 prior to the reorganisation were actually exempted and promoted to Rs. 25-40 grade. All their cases were very carefully considered by the Government; in fact the Government forestalled the Hon'ble Mem-

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ber's recommendation in the case of clerks who were at the time of reorganisation unpassed hands drawing over Rs. 20 and who were exempted from Standing Order No. 1 with a view to enable them to get appointments in the grade of Rs. 25—40. This is the general rule of Government:—"According to the orders of the Special Finance Committee Report there are several cases in almost all the departments and offices who, because of the pay of their posts has been modified, have to be exempted from Standing Order No. 1 for holding the self-same posts for drawing increased salary. The pay of the clerks who were drawing Rs. 20 or Rs. 25 was raised to Rs. 25—40. So I may say that along with the Hon'ble Member's resolution there was also a question to be answered. In doing so, I examined the cases of the unpassed hands of my department and found that there is not one single instance of a man who was drawing Rs. 20 and who has not given Rs. 25—40 but for the exemption. There is not one single man who has not had the benefit of this resolution. As far as the clerks and other officers are concerned, I don't think that any special exemption is necessary. If any case is left out, individual cases may be brought to the notice of the Government and the Government will very gladly examine their case and give them exemption. Government have already issued an order.

**Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.**—Are they the same in the case of the Magistrates' Courts?

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.**—Most of these cases I refer to are in the Magistrates' Courts.

**Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.**—Government have already ordered. Therefore if there is any case, where it can be brought to the notice of the Government that exemption has not been given, it will be considered by the Government.

**Dr. A. R. Menon.**—What would be the general policy?

**Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.**—I have watched the general policy. That policy has been circularised to all Heads of departments. I say there is not one single instance in my department.

**Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.**—Our information is that the clerical staff of the Magistrates' Courts has not been benefited.

**Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.**—Then it is for the Hon'ble Member to move the District Magistrate and the question of exemption in each case will be considered on its own merits. It is just like putting a question, have you ceased to beat your mother. It is very difficult to answer that question,

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**Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.**—For the information of the Government I may say that there are about 9 cases in the District Magistrate's Court at Trichur. That would seem to be the rule and not the exception.

**Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.**—Then the fact has not been brought to the notice of the Government. Orders have been issued. It is for the individuals who are affected to bring it to the notice of the Government. There is the Sub-Magistrate and there is the District Magistrate, through whom the clerk concerned may approach Government.

**Dr. A. R. Menon.**—The point is that in certain Departments they have not been given the benefit of the generous concession given by the Government. What we would like to do here, if there is any hesitation from the monetary point of view, is we want to strengthen the hands of the Government by again taking a division and showing that a majority of us are in favour of extending this principle in cases where this principle was not extended. For example in the Magisterial Department there are specific cases.

**Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.**—Then the resolution has to be worded differently. The Hon'ble Member said that he asked the Government for some information. If he will have a little patience, the question will be answered very soon. I got it day before yesterday. I replied there are no cases in my department. Government have acted promptly. The replies from all officers are expected soon and when answers are given, he can recast the resolution if necessary. Why should the House be divided on this question? What is there to be divided? It is only when there is a difference of opinion that there should be division. When there is a definite clear proposition before the House, there is nothing to be divided. There is an order already issued. I would ask the Hon'ble Member to wait for the answers to his questions and if there is any case omitted, it can be pointed out either in the shape of a resolution or by addressing the authorities concerned.

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.**—In the light of the observations made from the other side and for want of specific information on the questions that I have put to the Government I don't press it. I withdraw.

*The resolution was withdrawn with leave of the House.*

**Pipe system for Tiruvilwamala, etc., Villages.**

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